

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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WINSTON, N. C.

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THE CROSS MARK.

The cross mark on your paper indicates that the time for which you subscribed has or is about to expire. It is to give notice so your subscription may be renewed. If the subscription be not renewed the name will be dropped from the list, but we want every one to renew and bring a friend along too.

See our offer to give THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER one year and the Patch Corn Shelter for four dollars. This is the best shelter for the money in America. It is guaranteed and will give entire satisfaction. Send in your orders at once.

Col. John R. Winston, of Caswell county, has announced himself an independent candidate for Congress in this, the 5th, district.

The farmers of Catawba county are pushing the organization of clubs, four having been recently organized in that county.

The Republican State Executive Committee met in Raleigh Tuesday and by a vote of five to one decided to call no State convention this year.

The gold product of the mines of the United States last year was \$31,801,000 and of silver \$51,600,000. The gold product of North Carolina was \$152,000.

Samuel J. Tilden bequeathed \$1,750,000 to his relatives, and the balance of his estate, over \$4,000,000, to establish a great free public library for the city of New York.

One of the cigarette manufactories of Durham made in the month of July 1,298 miles of cigarettes—that is, they would reach that distance if placed end to end.

Maj. Louis C. Latham defeated Mr. Skinner, the present incumbent, for the nomination as Congressman from the 1st district in convention at Elizabeth City on the 11th inst.

Hon. A. M. Keiley, of Richmond, the rejected minister to Vienna, has been appointed one of the judges of the International Egyptian Commission at Cairo, salary \$5,000 a year.

In this country there were consumed in 1885, 642,000,000 gallons of beer and 70,763,010 gallons of whiskey, from which it would seem there is a field for the temperance advocate.

Prince Bismarck was a hard case when young. At college he always had a difficulty on hand and fought sixteen duels. He is plain in his mode of life, and thoroughly devoted to his wife and children. He loves also his pipe and beer.

Mr. Hewitt says that Mr. Tilden was not inaugurated because he lacked the courage to assert his rights. A good many people came to that conclusion long ago but it is hardly worth while to discuss it now.

The crop outlook has greatly improved within the past ten days, and the prospect now is, that plenty of corn and forage will be harvested to meet the demands of our people. In no crop, perhaps, has the improvement been so marked as in cotton, and a fair crop will be realized, especially if we have a late fall.

The Republican State Committee of New York has decided to hold no State Convention this year.

Maj. Charles W. McClammy, of Pender county, was nominated for Congress from the 3d district in convention at Clinton on the 12th inst., on the 345th ballot, in place of Hon. Wharton J. Green.

Capt. W. W. Carraway, the well known travelling agent and correspondent of the Raleigh News and Observer, has been appointed by the President a post office inspector and been assigned to duty at Chicago.

Speaker Carlisle stole a march on the boys in the House and did a very commendable thing when he ordered the House restaurant keeper not to sell members any liquor on the day that Congress adjourned. The consequence was that they adjourned sober and respectably.

Do not fail to plant at least a bountiful supply of turnips for the table and for your stock. Break the ground deep, and pulverize it thoroughly, taking care to manure it liberally. Sow good seed of best varieties. You can't make a good crop of turnips on poor or even medium soil; it must be made rich.

Prof. Foster, a Western meteorologist, predicts a period of violent storms extending through the Western, Middle and New England States, tornadoes, hail and rain, from the 19th to the 27th inst., and a tropical hurricane on the South Atlantic coast between the 16th and 20th.

It is to be a family fight in Tennessee. The Democrats have nominated Hon. R. L. Taylor for Governor, and the Republicans nominated his brother, Hon. A. A. Taylor, for the same office. Rather a dull campaign that must be, for it will not give the public the private record of the father and grandfather.

It is true economy for every farm to be provided with good, comfortable quarters for all the stock in winter and plenty of shelter under which to store all the hay, fodder, shucks, &c., and all the implements and machines used on the farm. Who will furnish the PROGRESSIVE FARMER with a description of the best and cheapest barn for the above purposes?

The N. C. Horticultural Society adjourned at Fayetteville to meet at Sanford on the Cape Fear & Yadkin Valley Railroad, on the 18th inst., to finish classifying and cataloguing the fruits of the State. The session will last two or three days, and those interested in fruit culture are invited to attend. Arrangements have been made with the hotel at a cost of one dollar per day for those attending the meeting.

A French chemist claims to have discovered a process by which he can make artificial milk closely resembling cow's milk. He takes grease and a fluid chemically prepared, blends the two and the result is milk. After standing some time the grease comes to the top like cream on milk and may be made into something resembling butter. He has not yet succeeded in making it taste like milk but he hopes to do it.

We have just heard of an incident which illustrates forcibly the thoughtlessness which marks the management of some of our farmers in their reckless waste. One man bought a portion of another's farm, and with it bought all the ashes which had been accumulating on the farm. He ran a fence across the farm on the "dividing line," and each one planted corn, the purchaser using the bought ashes on his land. There is no comparison in the crops growing on each side of the fence. The seller was puzzled to know why his corn was so much inferior to that of his neighbor, and was quietly informed that the ashes which he had sold at a mere nominal price did it. He says now that he will never again sell his ashes. We suspect that that man has been for these long years throwing away his ashes, and paying long prices for fertilizers, and perhaps giving mortgages to secure the payment.

Some of our brethren of the State press do THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER the honor to clip liberally from its editorial columns, but thoughtlessly fail to give the proper credit. We have seen several of our editorials reproduced in other papers and credited to papers which first clipped from our columns. We appreciate the compliment paid us in utilizing the product of our pen, and are therefore not disposed to quarrel, which we don't like to do, but would prefer to have proper credit for what we write, if it is worth reproducing.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

It is seldom that a promiscuous gathering gives more evidence of refinement and good breeding than the one which it was our good fortune to meet on the 11th inst. at Leaksville. It was variously estimated at 1,200 to 2,000, and a happy, genial crowd it was. Prof. Ray is to be congratulated on his happy fortune in having the moral support of such a community. The first session of his school shows 65 pupils on the list, and the indications are that the list will be greatly increased. The citizens have taken hold of the school in earnest, and we hope it will henceforth be a fixed institution in their midst.

The picnic was in every sense a happy success—it could not have been otherwise among a people of such refined and lavish hospitality and public spirit.

Mr. J. T. Pannell, of Wentworth, delivered a chaste and well conceived address on education. He was bold in thought and bold in expressing it. Addresses were also delivered by Prof. Ray and the writer.

Under the admirable arrangements of the committee of managers everything conspired to render the occasion one of the most pleasant and enjoyable that it has been our good fortune to attend.

Leaksville, situated in one of the finest farming sections of the South, is growing, but we fear, from what we learned, that the farmers of that community are in very great danger of going too far in the suicidal and ruinous one-crop system.

Long will we remember the many acts of courtesy and kindness received at the hands of this good people. THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER was not forgotten by them, but was encouraged by a handsome list of subscribers.

POPLAR TENT FAIR.

The Annual Fair of this association was held at Poplar Tent on the 11th and 14th insts. Unfortunately the surrounding streams, were so much swollen by heavy rains on the 10th that a great many visitors and exhibitors were kept away, but the exhibits in the various departments were highly creditable.

The address of Dr. Blanton, Master of the Virginia State Grange, we heard spoken of in the most complimentary terms. Speeches were also made by Col. Chas. R. Jones and the writer.

No Fair in the State has been financially more uniformly successful than this, and when the good people of the community shall have completed the organization of their clubs, we shall confidently expect the Fair to receive a new impetus and excel, next year, all its previous efforts. Co-operation must be the watchword of our farmers and by this and through this every county in the State should have an annual fair. Let the farmers of Cabarrus push the work of organization—form township clubs—a county club and then organize a grand county Fair.

THE GREY AND THE BLUE.

Mrs. James K. Polk, the venerable widow of President Polk, has written a letter inviting the Grand Army of the Republic to hold its next reunion in Nashville, in which she says:

"Before I die I would that mine eyes could see the grand reunion of my beloved country in the city where my dear husband lies—see the veterans of the North encamping in amity where they once did in anger, and those who wore the grey shaking hands with their fellow-countrymen in the fellowship of a common destiny. I cannot but think the meeting of the grand army of the republic in Nashville in 1887 would be the grand turning point in the complete reconciliation of the land my husband presided over, and whose unity is dear to my heart."

GETTING HISTORY SLIGHTLY MIXED.

We have recently been appealed to by prominent gentlemen to give a truthful history of the origin, establishment and progress of our State Department of Agriculture and also a sketch of the Experiment Station and Experiment Farm. One of these gentlemen says: "The paternity of these various institutions is now being warmly contested by a dozen or more and I hope you will (as you can) give us a correct history."

Well, it has afforded us no little amusement to witness the efforts of

some men in making history. They seem to think that facts are not at all important.

An elderly lady on being asked her opinion of a lecturer whom she had heard, said: "Well he is the most aptest man and talks with the greatest liberty about things he don't know nuthin about of any body I ever seed," and so we have sometimes felt when we have been reading the effusions of some of our would-be history manufacturers.

In the attractive and interesting program of exercises had recently in celebrating the opening of the Experiment Farm at Raleigh, we were pleased to see that an address was delivered by Commissioner McGeehee, giving the information sought by our friends—a history of the Department. We have not as yet been favored with a copy, but we hope that it has been published and that we may have the pleasure of reading it. It is evident from speeches made there and elsewhere (extracts of which we have read) that the history of the department is getting slightly mixed.

A CONFEDERATE SOLDIER'S PLUCK.

The Lenoir, Caldwell county, Topic says that Wm. Nelson, of Patterson township, a veteran soldier who lost an arm at Gettysburg, was last week allowed \$8 per month for the support of his three idiot children by the board of commissioners. He has supported these children for twenty years, working on rented land with only one arm to work with and has paid his taxes and supported his wife and two other children besides the three unfortunates.—Raleigh News and Observer.

Truly has poor Nelson grandly illustrated the sublime spirit of "A Confederate soldier's pluck," but the inhuman neglect and want of sympathy in all these long years of untold suffering—more trying to him than the terrors and perils of the battle in which he lost his arm—should bring a blush of shame to the cheeks of every patriotic North Carolinian.

FARMERS' SEASIDE GATHERING.

The New Hampshire State Board of Agriculture will hold a meeting for the consideration of Agricultural interests at Boar's Head, Hampton Beach, Thursday, Aug. 19, 1886, commencing at 10 a. m. The full board will be present, also several of the ex-members, and other gentlemen prominent in the agricultural interests will address the meeting. Farmers from every section are welcome, with their wives and daughters.

JAMES O. ADAMS, Secretary.

We clip the above announcement from the American Cultivator. And this is what the writer, for six years, has contended should be done by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture. Our Board should be reorganized and should be composed of practical, intelligent men representing all the sections and leading industries of our State and should hold an annual meeting to which should be invited all the farmers, manufacturers and others, who are personally engaged in those pursuits which build up the material interests of our State. It may possibly be a delusion but a large majority of the people of our State, believe the \$45,000 expended annually by the Department should yield larger and more practical results.

READ THIS PARAGRAPH.

Are you a reader of the PROGRESSIVE FARMER? Do you think it a paper that should be encouraged and supported by the farmers of the State? If so will you kindly say as much to your neighbor? Every subscriber to our paper could easily procure at least one subscriber, and by so doing double our list. We are highly gratified with the increasing patronage of our paper, but with very slight effort, our friends could do a valuable service for us. Will you try it?

THE SWAMP WILLOW.—HOW TO DESTROY IT.

Thousands of acres of our best bottom lands are infested with the swamp willow and very many persons do not know how to destroy it. Here is the way to do it:

About the middle of August chop around the base of the bush or tree. Take hold of the bark with the hands and strip it up the trunk as high as you can, and let it hang, leaving the trunk naked. The branches, trunk, and roots will all die. The larger the tree the more sure the work. Try it and report to us.

Wisconsin farmers have been sweltering of late with the mercury from 86° to 107° in the shade.

SAMPLES OF OUR PRODUCTS.

The following letter from Hon. Norman J. Colman, Commissioner of Agriculture, was received last week:

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 11, 1886.

Dear Sir:—I have set apart a space in our large exhibit building for the permanent exhibition of the various grains and grasses grown in the several States and Territories of the Union. I will deem it a special favor to this Department if you will send samples of wheat and other grains and such grasses as may be in proper condition for shipment. I suggest that you send a bundle at least three inches in diameter of the full length of the straw, attaching the correct name to each. It would be well to send two quarts of the grain with each sample of stalk. Of the grasses, a package of from one to one and a half inches in diameter would be desirable.

The expenses of transportation will be cheerfully borne by this Department.

Yours respectfully,

NORMAN J. COLMAN,
Commissioner of Agriculture.

A moment's reflection will show the importance of the object Commissioner Colman has in view in securing the samples of products referred to. He is a progressive, live man, and has done much since he has been in office to bring the Department of Agriculture up to public expectation and to make it accomplish the purposes for which it was intended. In providing a building for the exhibit of the products of the several States and Territories, he is not only rendering service to the cause of agriculture, but to the country at large, and especially to the particular sections which make the finest exhibits. He has made efforts in other directions to secure the desired samples for exhibit from our State but has not met with the success he expected, and this letter is written to the editor of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER hoping for better results. We shall cheerfully co-operate with him and urge our friends to do the same, to the end that North Carolina may have such a collection as will be creditable to her. As the wheat and oats are harvested, most of it threshed, it may be that the best samples of these in the stalk cannot be secured, but with the grain and grasses there will be no trouble. Notice the instructions and send direct to the Department, or to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, and we will see samples properly attended to and forwarded.

A GOOD SIGN.

Many farmers who come into our office tell us that they propose to use very little commercial fertilizers and to give more attention to the saving and making of home manures. This is indicated also by the discussions in the Farmers Clubs. We congratulate the farmers on this wise resolve, for until they do cease to depend upon the commercial fertilizers, and make the farm supply its own composts they cannot expect that success which their labor ought to meet with. In our opinion it was an unlucky day for the South when the first bag of commercial fertilizer was brought into it, not because it does not to some extent answer the purpose of a fertilizer, but because our people got to depending too much upon it, and neglected the home-made fertilizers which, in the long run, are of incalculably more value.

Aside from the comparative value of the two different kinds of fertilizers, that purchased from the manufacturers is high priced and compels the average purchaser to go more or less in debt, sometimes to an extent which seriously embarrasses him if it does not entail heavy sacrifice, while the home-made requires no outlay of money, creates no indebtedness, but only the application of intelligent industry, the great bulk of the material necessary lying conveniently at hand on every farm or easily within reach. When the day comes that every Southern farmer makes his own fertilizers, then the Southern farmer will begin to feel independent and wonder that he travelled so long in bondage and didn't see his way out sooner.

A FARMER CANDIDATE.

Maj. C. W. McClammy, the gentleman nominated by the Democratic Convention of the 3d district for Congress, is a practical farmer. Mr. Rowland, of the 6th district, is a farmer too, but also engaged in the practice of law.

It is reported that cholera has broken out in two or three Wisconsin towns.